



the collegian

INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY



VOL. 118 NO. 109

kstatecollegian.com



Tomorrow:
High: 62°F
Low: 38°F



Sunday:
High: 42°F
Low: 23°F

02

Nothing but the best
We get back to you today in our best of the Fourum replies

04

One-woman army
See how comic book heroines put out a powerful punch

06

No-broke break
Powercat Financial hosted an event to help you save money

SGA election trends reflect voter interest

Andy Rao
editor-in-chief

When the Student Governing Association election results were announced on Wednesday evening, winning and losing candi-

dates had one thing in common: they had more supporters than in 2012 campaigns.

The 2013 presidential elections garnered 3,881 votes this year, compared to 3,186 votes in 2012 — a 22 percent increase. The senate race also saw more participation this year, increasing from last year's 3,302 votes to 4,124 votes — a 25 percent increase.

"I feel like the campaigns were very well-advertised," said Austin Green, freshman in software engineering. "There were

signs and sidewalk chalking all over the place and the candidates were all very vocal. I got to listen to Schooley-Unruh speak at my fraternity meeting, so that really helped me understand the issues in this election."

Yet the 2012 and 2013 numbers were still lower than the total voter turnout in 2011.

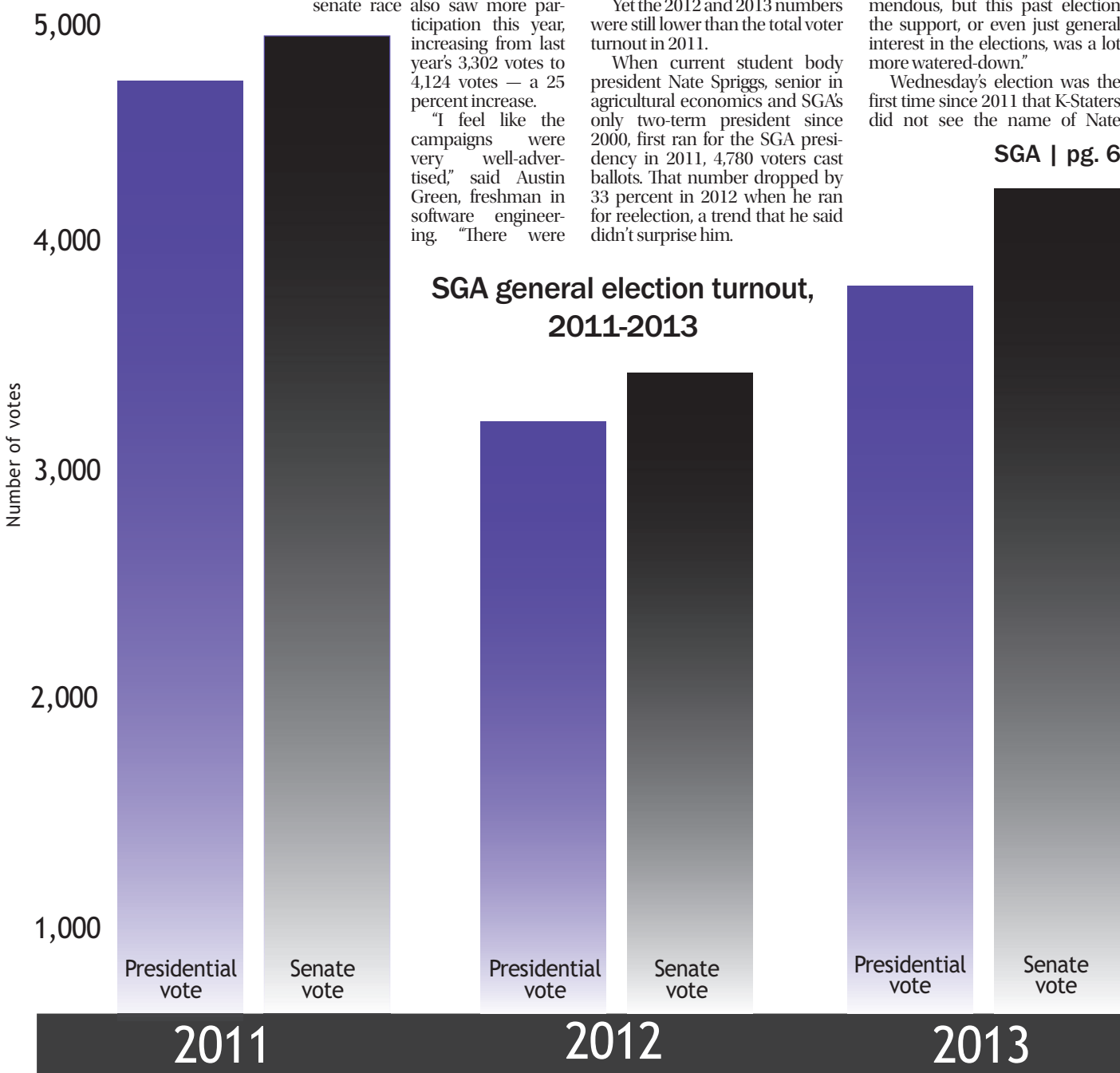
When current student body president Nate Spriggs, senior in agricultural economics and SGA's only two-term president since 2000, first ran for the SGA presidency in 2011, 4,780 voters cast ballots. That number dropped by 33 percent in 2012 when he ran for reelection, a trend that he said didn't surprise him.

Spriggs said fewer people voted in 2012 because an incumbent candidate was running.

"It's part of the political cycle," Spriggs said. "You can see it even in national elections. President Obama's turnout in 2008 was tremendous, but this past election the support, or even just general interest in the elections, was a lot more watered-down."

Wednesday's election was the first time since 2011 that K-Staters did not see the name of Nate

SGA | pg. 6



• **2011: 4,780 students vote in the SGA presidential election**

• **2012: 3,186 students vote, a 33 percent drop from 2011**

• **2013: 4,124 students vote, a 25 percent increase from 2012**

Evert Nelson | Collegian

Eli Schooley, senior in political science, and Jake Unruh, junior in finance, stand with a mass of supporters in Johnny Kaw's after their victory in the SGA elections Wednesday night. School and Unruh will serve as student body president and vice president, respectively, in the 2013-14 school year.

Wildcats take on Cowboys for share of Big 12 title

John Zetmeir
staff writer

It is a question that fans started asking on the night of Dec. 22 when the then-unranked K-State Wildcats defeated the then-No. 8 Florida Gators: How far can these K-State Wildcats go?

Fans kept speculating when then-No. 25 K-State defeated then-No. 22 Oklahoma State in Bramlage Coliseum for the Big 12 opener. Since then, the Wildcats have lost just three conference games with only one opponent remaining: the No. 13 Oklahoma State Cowboys.

With a win, the Wildcats make history and claim at least a share of their first Big 12 title and their first conference title

since 1977. On top of that, they put themselves in position for a possible No. 2 seed in the Big 12 and the NCAA tournament.

"It can be very special. This is the time of year when you need to step up and try to accomplish the things that haven't been accomplished, and go out and just give it your all," said senior guard Rodney McGruder. "For me, there is no tomorrow. I can't compete for another Big 12 conference title."

For the Cowboys, the game starts with Marcus Smart. The freshman guard sensation has been one of the most consistent players in the country and is often the best player on the court. In the Cowboys' first match-up with the Wildcats, Smart scored 25 points to lead

Oklahoma State.

"[Smart] is such a good player. He is not the fastest guy, but he is tall and just knows how to play. He's smart, too, so it's a bigger challenge," said sophomore guard Angel Rodriguez.

It was a two-man offensive show for both of the teams in

TITLE | pg. 6

Emily DeShazer | Collegian

Senior guard Martavious Irving rolls the ball off his fingertips as he avoids a block by TCU forward Adrick McKinney on Tuesday at Bramlage Coliseum. The Wildcats will travel to play Oklahoma State on Saturday at 12:30 p.m. with a share of the Big 12 Championship on the line.



Number of multicultural students in SGA growing

David Mejia-Zaccaro
staff writer

Student Governing Association members hold the most influential positions possible for undergraduate students at K-State. Their mission is to cater to the best interests of the overall student population.

Among SGA's many responsibilities, one stands out. They are the ones responsible for deciding how to spend more than \$14 million worth of privilege fees in a way that they agree will be the most beneficial to the student body. The privilege fee is the modest amount of money included in semester fees that gets eclipsed by the cost of tuition on a student's account.

Although all students must pay a



Evert Nelson | Collegian

Student Senate members listen during roll call at Thursday night's SGA meeting in the Union's Big 12 room.

privilege fee, only SGA representatives decide how to spend it. However, a curious phenomenon appears when looking a little deeper into who's running the show: There is a disproportionate ratio of Caucasian-to-minority individuals in SGA when compared to the overall student population.

"I'd say that there are probably six or seven multicultural students involved in SGA, out of 100," said Kyle Nuss, senior in architectural engineering, student senator who was re-elected Wednesday after running unsuccessfully for student body president.

This seems odd, considering K-State's reputation of being open and welcoming toward minorities. The university includes many multicultural student organizations that seeking minor students' active involvement within the community.

Anthony YBarra, employer relations coordinator at Career and Employment Services and Hispanic Student Organization adviser, said he believes that the university is doing all it can within its power to solve this issue.

"The administrators care, but there is only so much they can do to get [minorities] involved," YBarra said. "They do a great job at trying to reach them, and the opportunities are there. You can lead a horse to water but can't force it to drink."

Regardless of K-State's attempts of inclusion, the fact remains that as of 2012, according to the university fact book, K-State had 24,378 students enrolled, out of which roughly 4,900 were classified as a minority.

Although it ignores several smaller variables that might classify someone as a minority, this statistic shows that a whopping 20 percent of K-Staters are within the ranks of a non-dominant demographic, a statistic that is not reflected in the makeup of SGA.

So what is isolating minorities from active involvement?

YBarra said that minority students may have communication disadvantages or psychological barriers that prevent them from seeking office.

"The reason most don't get involved is because they are either unaware or overwhelmed," YBarra said. "First-generation minority students would have a harder time running for office than their counterparts, whose family might have several generations worth of experience. If there was a way for other students to

DIVERSE | pg. 6



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ACROSS

1 Beavers' structure

4 Second letter

8 Wild and crazy

12 Indivisible

13 Mideast airline

14 Sheltered

15 Gin, e.g.

17 Grad rags?

18 First murderer

19 Iron

20 Suiitor

22 Paddock parent

24 Long-running Broadway musical

25 Pheasant or grouse

29 Fuss

30 Dental filling

31 Ultra-modern (Pref.)

32 Back-yard attraction

34 Some-where out there

35 Feedbag fodder

36 Surprise big-time

37 Engine

40 Unwanted email

41 On in years

42 Morning garb

46 Entreaty

47 "Super-food"

49 Transmit berry

48 Grecian vessel

50 Group of cattle

51 Despondent

DOWN

1 "What's up, —?"

2 Literary collection

3 16th-century cartographer

4 Start

5 Verve

6 Highland hat

7 Brewery product

8 Capital of Croatia

9 Shaving cream

10 Informa-tion

11 Longings

16 Speaker's spot

19 Quarry

20 Wound cover

21 Gully

22 Soda shop orders

23 Asian nurse

25 Summer-time pest

26 Notorious

27 Ca-boose's place

28 Collegian quarters

30 Construc-tion piece

33 Gizmo

34 Winged

36 Garden intruder

37 3-Down's creations

38 Leering look

39 Adoles-cent

40 Luminary

42 "Hum-bug!"

43 Expert

44 Lingerie item

45 Conclu-sion

Solution time: 25 mins.

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D	E	E	R	T	I	S	P	E	E	R

Yesterday's answer 3-8

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49					50					51		

THE BEST OF THE FOURUM

Not participating this Saturday because I hate fake people...

--- I've never been a fan of mannequins either.

It smells like someone took a dump on campus.

---I bet someone did.

The new Rec sucks. Poor planning mixed with a lack of understanding by those in charge.

--- No new Rec for you!

The Fourum should be more fun like it used to be. People might actually like it then.

--- We both know you just miss Beth Mendenhall.

I'm going to miss hearing it, that's for sure. "Mc-Gruuuuuuuuder for THREEEEE!"

--- *Tear*


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Scan for an insider look at the plasma donation process



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THE FOURUM

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Like your favorite posts at thefourum.kstatecollegian.com

The Fourum is a quirky view of campus life in voices from the K-State community. Positive and humorous comments are selected for publication by the Collegian marketing staff.

Liberals support EPAW. Game over.

The fact that less than 20 percent of the student body votes for SGA is absolutely pathetic.

I like to party.

Is it just me, or does "K-State Compliments" kinda make you wanna vom? Sounds like a gushy sorority girl with too much time on her hands.

If you thought about your religion and still chose it, then you probably didn't think very hard.

Fake Patty's Day ... the only time RCPD is on the look-out for dui's at 10 am.

Rand Paul quotes Lysander Spooner, Marco Rubio quotes Wiz Khalifa. Hmmm. #Stand-withRand

Just researched Manhattan's municipal code: Noise Violations can only be given from the hours of 11pm-7am. Happy Fake Patty's Day!

Women should be charged with false advertisement for the amount of make-up they wear. It's pure trickery!


Democracy is the art and science of running the circus from the monkey cage.

Editor's note: To submit your Fourum contribution, call or text 785-260-0207 or email thefourum@kstatecollegian.com. Your email address or phone number is logged but not published.


The Fourum To see the rest of today's entries, visit kstatecollegian.com.

Logan's Run | By Aaron Logan

THERE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A BIG BLIZZARD IN D.C. ON WEDNESDAY, SO EVERYTHING CLOSED, BUT NOTHING EVER CAME OF IT.



SOUNDS LIKE EVERY DAY IN D.C.--A WHOLE LOTTA HUBBUB, BUT NOTHING EVER COMES FROM IT.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Collegian welcomes your letters. We reserve the right to edit submitted letters for clarity, accuracy, space and relevance. A letter intended for publication should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article that appeared in the Collegian within the last 10 issues. It must include the author's first and last name, year in school and major. If you are a graduate of K-State, the letter should include your year(s) of graduation and must include the city and state where you live. For a letter to be considered, it must include a phone number where you can be contacted. The number will not be published. Letters can be sent to letters@kstatecollegian.com

Letters may be rejected if they contain abusive content, lack timeliness, contain vulgarity, profanity or falsehood, promote personal and commercial announcements, repeat comments of letters printed in other issues or contain attachments.

The Collegian does not publish open letters, third-party letters or letters that have been sent to other publications or people.

CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call managing editor Darrington Clark at 785-532-6556 or email news@kstatecollegian.com.

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All weather information courtesy of the National Weather Service. For up-to-date forecasts, visit nws.noaa.gov.

THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

Monday, March 6

Joseph Urbano, of Clay Center, Kan., was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Matthew was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Johnny Ray Jernigan, of the 900 block of Garden Way, was booked for probation violation. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Ethan Russell Wilson, of the 5100 block of Shadowridge Drive, was booked for probation violation. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Amber Reneece Baker, of Lawrence, was booked for two counts of misdemeanor theft and two counts of mis-

demeanor giving a worthless check. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Naim Saalim Alamin, of the 700 block of Allen Road, was booked for two counts of sale or distribution of controlled substances within 1,000 feet of a school, aiding a felon or a person charged with a felony, three counts of sale or distribution of hallucinogens or marijuana, and conspiracy to commit a crime. Bond was set at \$150,000.

Holly Renae Braden, of the 1400 block of College Avenue, was booked for driving under the influence and duty of driver to give notice of an accident. Bond was set at \$2,000.

Brandon Ray Tilley, of the 800 block of Mission Avenue, was booked for criminal trespassing. Bond was set at \$500.

Tuesday, March 7

Compiled by Katie Goerl

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Made-up holiday dangerous, needs more police action



Jakki Thompson

Fake Patty's Day — the event on the tips of many people's tongues. It's the time of year when all the bars seem to open at 9 a.m., serving green beer for an entire weekend of consumerism and binge drinking. Many people love this day on the basis that it was created to see how much students, community members and people in general can drink, and that's how it's celebrated each year.

I have many issues with Fake Patty's Day and what it stands for. I believe, due to what has become, a continuation of increased police surveillance and protection is needed for this weekend. Fake Patty's Day needs to be regulated.

As the years go by, I hear stories about what makes Fake Patty's Day so "memorable" — stories about being blacked-out drunk or the stupid things people did while intoxicated. When people are passed out in or near Aggieville and vomit is covering the pavement, you have a wake-up call that says this event needs to be regulated.

Open container laws need to continue being enforced within the boundaries of Aggieville. Minors should not be allowed in the bars at all. Since this is not a regulated festival, minors are prevented from going into the Aggieville business district during this weekend.

Even though there are many financial benefits of Fake Patty's Day, there are more negative effects. The college experience in Manhattan seems to be focused on how much and how fast people can drink this coming weekend. People from both in-state and oftentimes out of state come to this, for lack of a better word, "celebration." I don't understand why this weekend is the pinnacle of some people's college experiences.

Often, people under the age of 21 and non-partiers are considered to be the minority — people who don't participate in and don't enjoy Fake Patty's Day. However, the Fake Patty's Day crowd is a small portion of the Manhattan population. For non-drinkers, traveling around Manhattan or trying to get into a non-bar in Aggieville on Fake Patty's Day weekend is a huge nuisance.

The argument about having more regulation and police presence in Aggieville usually leads to the assertion that the parties will just move to houses and apartments. I agree with this, but I think that police need to regulate and continually check these parties as well. Many of these parties are how minors receive alcohol and are the perfect opportunity for people to binge-drink.

By increasing their regulation, police will be able to issue more citations and tickets, consequently increasing the amount of money they will be receiving. More police officers could potentially reduce the amount of drunk-and-disorderly conduct or public drunkenness. With increased security, Aggieville will become a safer space for both people who are choosing to drink and those who aren't. More police personnel will



Illustration by Parker Wilhelm

also allow people who live near campus or Aggieville to feel safer about having Fake Patty's Day occur.

No one is at fault in the instance of Fake Patty's Day. Call me a "Debby Downer," but I don't see the joy in my cool factor being based on how much and how fast I can drink. As someone who doesn't participate in it in any way, shape or form, I continue to advocate the increased security

and police personnel in all aspects of Fake Patty's Day.

We need increased personnel in communities looking for house parties and shutting them down if they are serving to minors or if there are noise complaints. City ordinances must be enforced when related to drunk-and-disorderly conduct and public intoxication. We need professionals patrolling the city looking for people who were unable to make

it home and are passed out on the sidewalk.

At the end of the day, this argument is about safety — the safety of the people who are participating in the event, as well as the safety of the people who aren't.

Jakki Thompson is a sophomore in women's studies, journalism and mass communications and American ethnic studies. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

Fake Patty's crackdown pushes students into less safe environment



Ian Huyett

Although Fake Patty's Day has likely been distinguished by debauchery since it began in 2007, the day of revelry became especially raucous in 2011.

That year, police received 766 service calls, according to an August 2011 City Commission memo — a 65 percent increase over the number they received the year before, and according to a March 2012 article by WIBW, seven times the usual daily number of calls. "RCPD issued more citations on March 12, 2011 than on any other single date of the last three years," the memo stated.

College students probably didn't get any crazier between 2007 and 2011. In fact, according to a study by the University of Michigan, binge drinking by American students declined each of those five years. So what suddenly propelled 2011's Fake Patty's Day to new heights of mayhem?

The memo itself offers a possible answer. It boasts several "proactive" responses collaborated on by numerous organizations and agencies

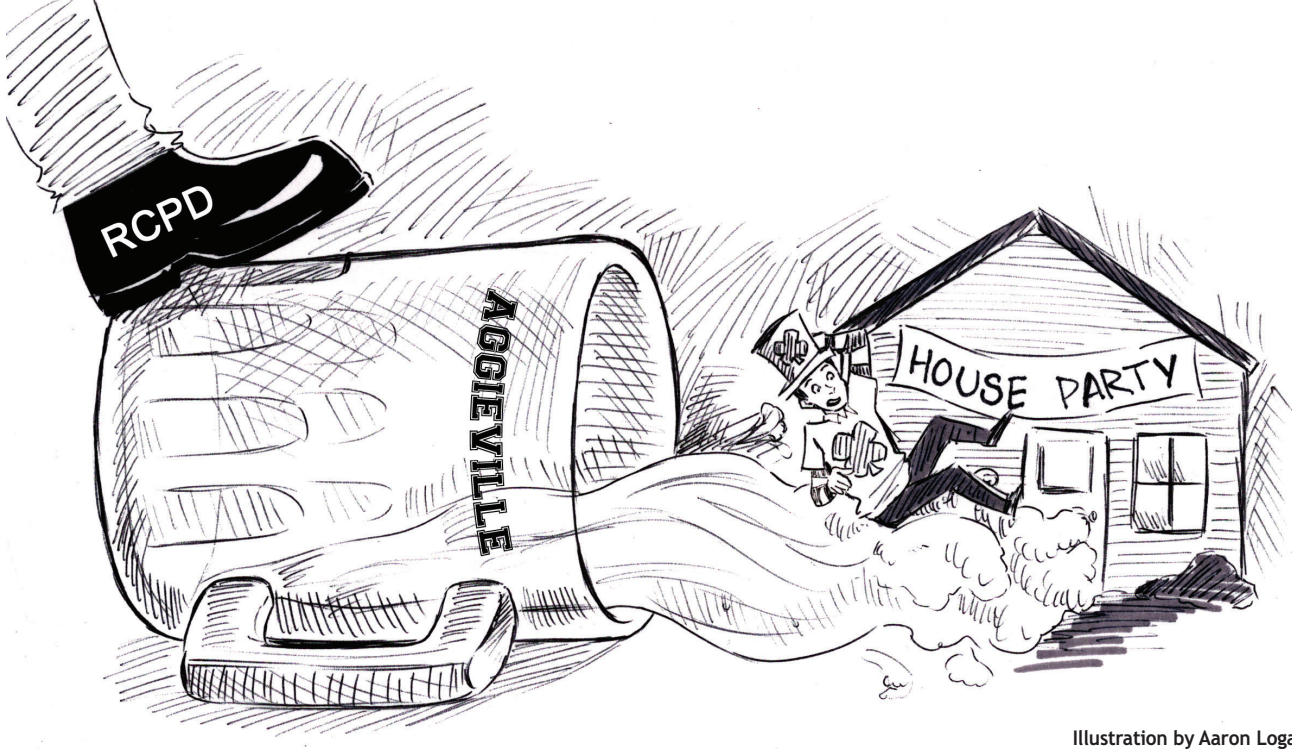


Illustration by Aaron Logan

"for the first time" in 2011. The actions newly taken by the RCPD included closing down Moro Street beginning at 7 a.m., maintaining heavy police foot patrols in Aggieville and roping off parking spaces in City Park at a total cost of just under \$26,000.

This blunt attempt to suffocate the day's merriment may have backfired. By discour-

aging Aggieville patrons with a bureaucratic blockade, the city made it less appealing to journey to local bars and more appealing to settle for less credible house parties. Instead of partying under the supervision of certified servers and watchful police, many students partied with stockpiles of store-bought liquor and their townie neighbors for company.

I'm not the first person to propose this theory. The 2011 Student Governing Association seems to have made exactly the same connection. They included in their notes the statement, "The event is going to happen. It will spill into the neighborhoods more if Aggieville is locked down."

The City Commission went on to consider an array of new,

even more heavy-handed measures. These included putting snow fencing around the entire district, quintupling fines for overcrowding and possibly revoking the licenses of bars that continue to permit overcrowding.

In 2012, police fielded 746 calls, 20 fewer than in 2011. To put it mildly, last year's police invasion of Aggieville does not

seem to have helped substantially. In the above-mentioned article from wibw.com, the director of the RCPD said he generally considered the effort a success, noting that calls for service were down 1.8 percent from 2011.

Other numbers were even less impressive. The article reported that there were 86 arrests — up from 46 the previous year. Additionally, a pedestrian was struck by a car, and paramedics responded to 77 calls. The average blood alcohol level of their patients was more than four times the legal limit. Moreover, 51 of the 77 calls came from outside of Aggieville.

Police succeeded in making Aggieville a safer place, but it was safer because many students weren't there. They were at home, getting alcohol poisoning. Fake Patty's Day, in truth, has more to do with the color green and binge drinking than any one physical location. In Aggieville, local businesses offer an opportunity to lure it in and temper it. The city government would be wise to take advantage of that opportunity. By continuing to make Aggieville look like the Korean Demilitarized Zone, they only displace and exaggerate the costs.

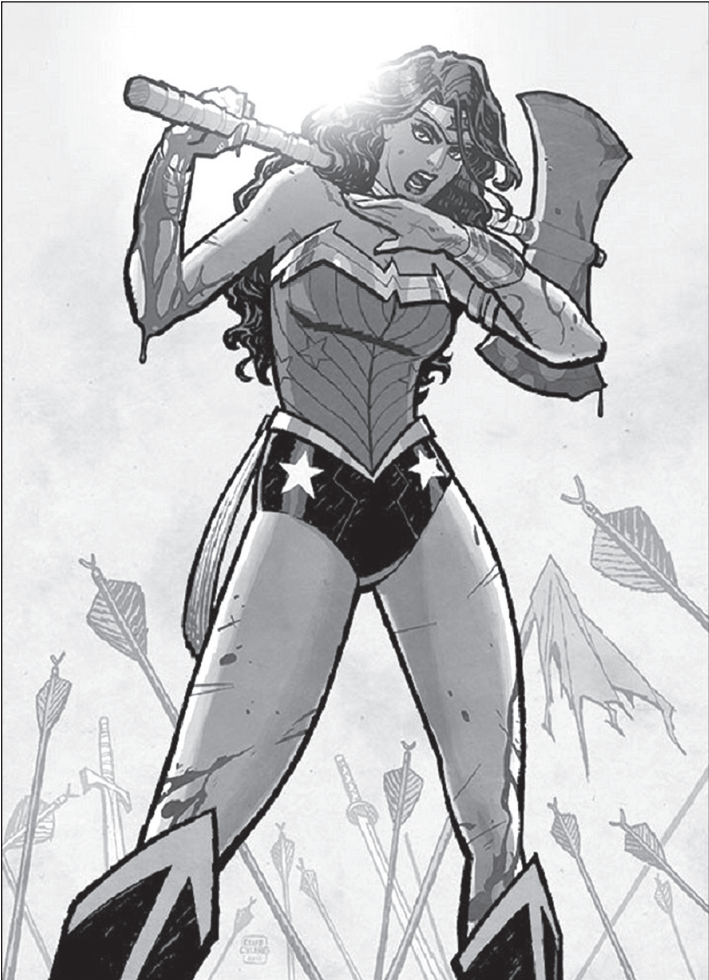
Ian Huyett is a senior in political science and anthropology. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

ALT. ED BOARD

What are your plans for Fake Patty's Day?

Andy Rao editor-in-chief	Darrington Clark managing editor	Laura Thacker managing copy chief	Sarah Throckmorton design editor	Austin Nichols news editor	Mike Stanton assistant news editor
“ I plan on hitting the 'Ville and then hangin' out at home and having a good time with friends. ”	“ I'll actually be in Kansas City on Fake Patty's, and I thank God for it. ”	“ I'm hiding from the madness in my apartment. I treat Fake Patty's like the zombie apocalypse. You have been warned. ”	“ Considering I'm not 21, I'm not going to honestly answer this question. ”	“ I'm gonna eat a lot of green eggs and ham. ”	“ This will be my first Fake Patty's in Manhattan, so I'm looking forward to having a good time and seeing if it lives up to all the hype. ”
Mark Kern sports editor	Jena Sauber edge editor	Cara Hillstock opinion editor	Emily DeShazer photo editor	Karen Ingram staff liaison	Sarah Megee social media and video editor
“ I'm going to hang out with my friends and just have a good time, and watch the Wildcats win a Big 12 title. ”	“ Looking forward to turning 21 on SUNDAY. ”	“ I'll be moving furniture and striking Figaro's set until deep into the night...Happy Fake Patty's! ”	“ I'll be waking up at 6:20 to drive to Oklahoma to cover the game. ”	“ Run for the hills! ”	“ My plans are to wear green and hang out with friends. ”

Where to find butt-kicking female heroes in comics



Courtesy photo



Tyler Brown

Although the comics industry has a diverse line-up of creators, the same couldn't be said about the stars of the comics they make — until recently, that is. In the past year, comics publishers have been putting out more books with female protagonists. Anyone can pick up any comic and try it out, but for my female friends, it is harder to find a book with a protagonist they could relate to. With that in mind, here is a list of comics with female leads.

DC Comics
DC's go-to female lead has always been Wonder Woman. With 676 issues to her name, it's clear that her popularity hasn't waned since her debut in 1941. With DC's "New 52" publishing push, Diana of Themyscira got a reboot done right by Brian Azzarello and Cliff Chiang. In this version, Wonder Woman sets out to protect Zola, a young woman pregnant with Zeus' bastard child. Being a child of Zeus herself, Diana knows she must protect Zola and the child from her jealous half-siblings. This title has been one of DC's strongest since its inception and continues its quality

streak month after month. Also in DC's stable of characters are Batwoman and Batgirl. I'll cover Batwoman more in-depth in an upcoming edition focusing on LGBT characters in comics. Batgirl, written by Gail Simone, has had its ups and downs both behind the scenes and on the page. If you want a female-led trip through Gotham, that's your best bet.

Marvel Comics
Over the last two years or so, Marvel has done a complete 180. From barely being able to support books with female leads, Marvel now has some of the best books with female protagonists one can find. Recently putting out the 10th issue, Kelly Sue DeConnick's take on Carol Danvers is incredibly admirable. For years, Danvers was known as Ms. Marvel, playing second fiddle to many others after an alien device detonated near her. Now, this United States Air Force pilot has shed the ridiculous bathing-suit/sash combo and is donning a new, more respectable costume, along with her new title: Captain Marvel. DeConnick's writing, along with the work of rotating artists, has brought new life to the character. The popularity of the new "Captain Marvel" series has reached such heights that many on the Internet consider themselves a part of the self-named Carol Corps, while they and others create many pieces of

clothing and costumes from the comics for cosplay. Other notable Marvel books include "Fearless Defenders," "Journey Into Mystery" and "X-Men." "Fearless Defenders" by Cullen Bunn features a rotating cast of female heroes. With the recent first issue, the Asgardian warrior Valkyrie teamed up with the street-wise private investigator with a cybernetic arm, Misty Knight. The two stumble upon ninjas and undead warriors in their first outing. Remember that butt-kicking female warrior in the "Thor" movie named Sif? Well, starting recently in issue No. 646 of "Journey Into Mystery," Kathryn Immonen is weaving tales of Sif's adventures while deconstructing the character. Attitude, swords and blue troll blood can be found. Finally, coming this May, writer Brian Wood and artist Olivier Coipel are relaunching Marvel's "X-Men" with an all-female team. Wood's mentioned wanting to challenge preconceived gender notions many have and why people may be okay with Wolverine sleeping around, but not Rogue or Storm. My girlfriend and I are equally excited for this one. If you're looking for something with fewer capes, I have a couple of suggestions for you.

Oni Press
From Brian Wood and Ryan

COMICS | pg. 6

Educators see potential in video games as intuitive learning tools

Randall Hellmer
contributing writer

Video games are exploding in popularity. Low-cost mobile games such as "Angry Birds" and popular products like the Nintendo Wii and DS have attracted many new gamers. While video games traditionally have a place in leisure time, some educators see an opportunity to incorporate video games and gaming concepts into the world of education as well. "Education really does need to be fun again. We forget that," said Ben Ward, instructional designer for the Information Technology Assistance Center. "There is an inherent bias in education against games, and that has been around for a long time, and it hasn't gone away yet: that because someone's

playing a game, it's childish or frivolous. And I think we need to seriously visit whether this has any basis in reality." Part of Ward's job is to study education and create ways to improve it. Their often-unacknowledged complexity allows many games to have educational value, Ward said. The game designer has to find a way to teach the player the rules of the game world and the controls needed to manipulate that world. The best-designed games convey this to the player intuitively without ever saying a word. According to an Education.com article by Jayel Gibson, educational video games can help increase memorization, context and cognition and address equality issues, language diversity and character gender options.

Using design techniques, games such as the "Civilization" series can convey the incredible complexity of international diplomacy in a condensed package by letting the player explore its workings through play, without reading a textbook or completing a worksheet. The series, created by Sid Meier, allows users to build civilizations from the ground up and include locations and time periods in America, Japan, Egypt, Russia and Spain, and various historical cultures including the Incas and the Aztec. "The best type of learning, in my mind, is when you don't realize you're learning something," Ward said. "And in any really good game, especially the triple-A games, the commercial games, there's a huge learning curve in those games, especially if you've never tried one."

Nathan Bean, graduate student in curriculum and instruction and coordinator for computing and information sciences, suggests this came about as a result of competition. "Highly successful commercial games we see now have a lot of knowledge inherent in the way they are designed that is about learning," Bean said. "That has come about not because they studied education theory, but because they have simply picked up the lessons by designing better and better games." One example both Bean and Ward held up as excellent in this regard is "The Oregon Trail," a decades-old game that requires the player to plan and drive a caravan of wagons safely to Oregon. The trials and tribulations that threatened the

lives and supplies of the actual settlers come to life in the game and teach players about the kinds of hazards settlers came across. It is realistic in that some caravans never complete their journey due to illness, lack of resources, or other challenges. At the same time, games have more immediate applications in enlivening traditional schoolwork. According to Bean, integrating games into education is simple. "A lot of times, [games] are being used as a stand-in for worksheets or other drill activities, where it's just routine activities you do over and over again," Bean said. "And they take a little bit of gameplay and sandwich it between those activities." The fast-paced style of video games can also make them an attractive part of today's educa-

tion. "The big thing that makes it work for education is that when you're playing a game, you have immediate feedback and lots of it," Bean said. The rapid retry rate of video games can also help students get more practice while spending less time with a teacher. A student can try and fail hundreds of ways in the same time it takes teachers to grade a student's work one time. This aspect is an important benefit of games in education. "If you fail in a game," Bean said, "you start over, and that's been a staple of games for a long, long time." *Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.*

Studying abroad in Australia presents few cultural obstacles



Erica Hamman | Collegian

Pictured is the Yarra Footbridge, which is located in Melbourne, the second-most populous city in Australia.



Erica Hamman

G'day, mates! Erica Hamman here again to let you know about my fabulous study abroad experience in Melbourne, Australia. Currently, it is orientation week (or O-week) at Deakin University where there are many fun and free activities sponsored by the school so you can meet the incoming freshmen and also other international students. On Monday, a group of about 500 students learned a dance to the song "I Love It" by Icona Pop so we could participate in random flash mobs. Tuesday included a Resi vs. Food activity where residents gorge themselves with food for a competition between floors. Wednesday was the most anticipated day of the week as there was a mystery bus tour. You could purchase tickets to be in several different themed buses, such as tight-and-bright and back to school gear. The

buses traveled to downtown Melbourne where students could go shopping or do whatever their hearts desired. If you were still awake enough to enjoy the other activities, there was also a speed dating event on Thursday to get to know your floor mates, and finally on Friday, there was a wine and cheese party for individuals over 18 (which is the legal drinking age in Australia.) We also played trivia on Monday night with categories such as celebrities, Australian slang and Harry Potter. I definitely carried the team on celebrities, since they asked about the Kardashians, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. The only subject the Australians had me beat was obviously Australian slang. I learned that the word "arvo" means afternoon and "sheila" means female. So far, the only large cultural difference I have experienced is the slang, which is not a very hard obstacle to overcome. I am sure I will come across many other differences, but so far this study abroad trip has been smooth sailing!

Erica Hamman is a junior in biology. Please send comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.

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Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
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110 S. 4th St.
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Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 p.m.
Friday 12:10 p.m.
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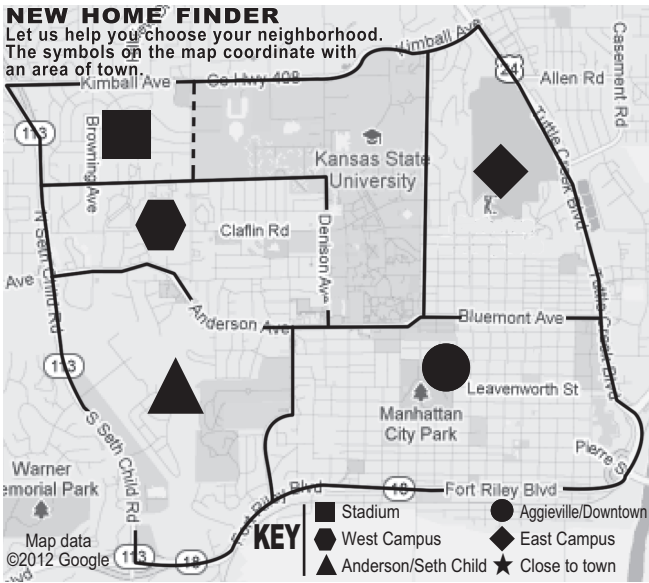
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PFC adds fun twist to spring break budget-planning event

Natalie Johnston
contributing writer

Students were drawn to the K-State Student Union Courtyard by the sounds of festive beach music and laughter at the “Spring Break, Not Spring Broke” event hosted by Powercat Financial Counseling on Thursday afternoon. The purpose of the event was to help students learn how to spend their money wisely while still enjoying their spring break experience.

Kelsey Kost, sophomore in economics, said that attending the event encouraged her to inquire about more information on PFC’s services.

“The event was great,” Kost said. “I will definitely look them up if I ever need financial advice.”

The event included interactive games and food and drinks as well as helpful financial information. One of the most popular attractions was the blow-up money vault. Students stepped inside the inflatable vault and tried to catch fake money as it flew around. Participants could exchange the fake money for PFC prizes.

Jasmine Walker, senior in public relations, waited in line for her chance to take home a prize.

“It was a lot of fun,” Walker said. “The machine was tougher than I thought.”

While enjoying the lively environment and activities, students and staff gained a greater knowledge of where

their money is really going.

Kat Lopez, graduate student in journalism and mass communications, was working in the Union during PFC’s event. She said it was a creative effort by PFC to educate students.

“I applaud the coordinators of the event for catering to their college student audience extremely well,” Lopez said. “It was clear that the efforts were well thought-out and very intentional.”

Since August 2009, PFC has been working to offer graduate and undergraduate student counseling that educates students about proper saving, accurate budgeting, credit, student loan repayment and transitioning to the workplace.

“The most common service is individual counseling as well as budgeting and understanding credit,” said Jodi Kaus, PFC director.

Bret Eisenbarth, graduate student in accounting, helped work a game booth at the event. Eisenbarth said he enjoys working PFC events like “Spring Break, Not Spring Broke” because they are more enjoyable than most graduate teaching assistant positions.

“I work with students to teach them how to budget conservatively,” Eisenbarth said.

Editor’s Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.



Hoping to win a prize for accuracy, **Nathan Cottingham**, graduate student in food science, attempts to fly his paper airplane through a suspended cardboard ring at Powercat Financial Counseling’s “Spring Break, Not Spring Broke” event, held in the K-State Student Union Courtyard on Thursday. Kat Lopez, graduate student in journalism and mass communications, said PFC did a good job of catering to K-State students creatively.

COMICS | Fans should vote with their money

Continued from page 4

Kelly comes “Local.” The young female protagonist, Megan McKeenan sets off from Portland, Ore., with nothing but a backpack. The book’s twelve chapters are self-contained, and each represents a year in the young wanderer’s life. Many of us, guy or girl, can relate to Megan at this age as we look for a place to call home.

Vertigo

This imprint of DC Comics has always been known for publishing fringe books, and “Y: The Last Man” by Brian K. Vaughan and Pia Guerra is no exception. When every male mammal in the world mysteriously drops dead, a young magician, Yorick Brown, and his monkey, Ampersand, set out in this new world trying to restore order and solve the mystery of how they still live. Although the protagonist is male, supporting characters, like Agent 355, represent strong females that all readers will come to love. I blame Vaughan for many a heart-wrench towards the end of the series.

To any of you who are aspiring writers, I challenge you to create strong female protagonists. Lord knows that pop culture is over-saturated with sexualized females who rely on lantern-jawed males to save them. Greg Rucka, writer of many strong female leads, put it best in an article for io9.com when recounting being asked the question, “How do you write such strong/well-realized/positively portrayed women?” Rucka’s simple answer: “I don’t. I write characters. Some of those characters are women.”

Throughout the medium’s history, comics have always found their way into the hearts of men and boys all over. Although many of the readers are male, more and more female readers are making their voices heard, and I couldn’t be more excited about it. However, as consumers, we need to vote with our money. Although there’s no word of cancellation, these titles can always use more support from readers who get their books from shops or the Comixology app. Go, buy, read and fall in love with these butt-kicking women.

Tyler Brown is a December 2012 graduate of K-State. Please send comments to edge@kstate-collegian.com.

SGA | Effort changes students’ opinions

Continued from page 1

Spriggs on the presidential ticket. Spriggs said that having new faces, new platforms and fresh ideas can excite voters and create an increased level of interest, accounting for the increase in voters from 2012 to 2013.

“It’s good to get some new guys in there this year,” Spriggs said. “When you have an incumbent run, it’s tougher to generate the same amount of excitement, but I think every one of the candidates did a good job of going out there and campaigning and getting people interested again.”

Some voters said that increased awareness and communication on SGA’s part played a big factor in their decision to take the time to cast their ballots.

“Last year, I just didn’t care because I didn’t know or find out

how important SGA is,” said Eric Brown, sophomore in mechanical engineering.

Brown said he did not vote last year and initially did not feel the need to vote again this year. Increased knowledge of the issues and the candidates, however, changed his mind.

“I just heard a lot more people talking about it this year than my freshman year,” Brown said. “It just caught my attention. I did some research online too, and that’s when I realized how important SGA is and what they do for our university.”

Spriggs said the most unique way that this year’s candidates campaigned is through social media and web-based resources.

Alongside the candidates’ various Facebook pages, YouTube videos and ample use of Twitter, Spriggs said both campaigns’ use of memes also provided a fresh

medium through which they conveyed their messages.

“It was definitely a unique way to reach out to more people,” Spriggs said. “This election cycle was already a week shorter because of a longer winter break and all the snow, so utilizing online and social media tools was a smart thing to do.”

Brown said that although all of the campaigning, social media messages, debates and platforms helped him understand the role of SGA, it is up to each student to be informed and involved with one of the most influential organizations on campus.

“As a student, you should want to know what’s going on,” he said. “I learned how much SGA does this year, and I decided to vote and make my voice heard. I will definitely vote in these elections for the rest of my time at K-State.”

DIVERSE | Minorities lack support

Continued from page 1

reach one another, it would really help — helping them getting over the intimidation of cultural differences.”

Coincidentally, in a separate interview, Ariel Mendiola, junior in sociology and student senator who recently ran alongside Nuss for student body vice president, proposed a similar solution. Mendiola, a Hispanic student, advocated a mentorship program in student government that would allow students to be role models for minorities.

“Having someone to look up to is a sure way to set the tendency and soon see a greater response,” Mendiola said.

Nuss said that in SGA elections, multicultural students lack the advantage of the support of a large section of the student population: greek organizations.

“It’s a lot easier to get elected with a lot of support, most of the time from greek organizations,” Nuss said. “For whatever reason, there aren’t a lot of multicultural students in greek organizations, so they lack that support.”

“The lack of communication between multicultural students and those in power is overwhelming.”

Anthony YBarra
CES Employer Relations Coordinator and Hispanic Student Organization adviser

YBarra said one problem is communication inefficiency between SGA and minority students on campus.

“Most minorities don’t know what SGA does, and the lack of communication between multicultural students and those in power is overwhelming,” YBarra said.

Nuss agreed with YBarra, saying that international students may not have a good idea of what SGA is.

“Even if they do decide to run, they don’t have that large base of friends to help them get elected,” Nuss said.

This is a huge gap that can only be narrowed by encouraging minorities into leadership roles. Although SGA does not represent all multicultural students, some students in SGA are working toward that goal.

“For example, Tyrone Williams is doing an amazing job at representing minorities,” said YBarra. “It will be sad to watch him leave after his graduation, freeing a spot that will be really hard for someone else to fill up.”

Greater challenges exist for minorities than non-minorities who want to take leadership on a largely white campus like K-State. There is a lack of communication among different groups, and without the example of a mentor to follow, members of an underrepresented cultural group might lose the motivation to seek a leadership position in organizations like SGA.

As Mendiola, YBarra and Nuss said, better communication might be the answer.

“Next term, the number will be higher,” Nuss said. “Thanks to our efforts to reach out, we will see closer to 12 multicultural SGA students, maybe even 15.”

TITLE | Spradling to rejoin team Saturday

Continued from page 1

their first matchup as K-State saw McGruder and sophomore Nino Williams combine for 45 of the Wildcats’ 73 points. For the Cowboys, junior Markel Brown added 19 points to Smart’s 25.

“Every game, I go in with confidence and ready to play. I was fortunate to make shots that day and had a good game,” McGruder said.

However, it was sophomore LeBryan Nash who helped elevate the Cowboys to their third-place spot in the Big 12. Nash, who only had 6 points in the teams’ first meeting, is averaging 18.5 points per game through his last four games.

It came down to a lot of little things for the Wildcats in their first meeting with the Cowboys back in January. K-State’s ability to find the open man for shots instead of forcing up bad attempts was one of the key differences. The Wildcats had 19 assists to Oklahoma State’s six.

There was also a difference on the glass. K-State out-rebounded the Cowboys 35-27, including 10-5 on

“It’s just tough not being able to be there and help my teammates; that’s the biggest thing. I’m not too worried about coming back. I feel like I’m ready to go now, so I’ll be all right.”

Will Spradling
junior guard

the offensive glass. A big contributor to that figure was Williams, who grabbed four of K-State’s 10 offensive rebounds.

After playing only five minutes against Baylor and not playing

against TCU due to injury, junior guard Will Spradling is likely to return for the Wildcats on Saturday. Despite only scoring one point in the first meeting, Spradling is shooting a career-best 40.2 percent from the floor and is the Wildcats’ free-throw shooter. Spradling has a season mark of 88 percent from the charity stripe.


“It’s just tough not being able to be out there and help my teammates; that’s the biggest thing,” Spradling said. “I’m not too worried about coming back. I feel like I’m ready to go now, so I’ll be all right.”

The Cowboys have only two home losses this season, Gonzaga and Kansas. Both teams have beaten the Wildcats. In front of a projected sellout crowd, the Big 12 title will not be an easy grab for K-State.

“We’ve played on the road — it’s not our first game on the road. So we are going to be ready to play,” McGruder said. “I am going to be ready to play.”

Department of Economics
Kansas State University

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